

HON. PARK M. TRAMMELL, ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

Hon Park M. Trammell, Florida's new Attorney General, is a young man having in him all the elements that go to make success. Of a fine physique and a dignified bearing, he seems also to possess the calm and equable temperament, clearness of perception, quickness of execution, honesty of purpose and depth of mind that harmonizes well with these external qualifications in gaining for him position and recognition. As a lawyer he is alert and active, well-grounded in his profession, and thoroughly posted in all affairs pertaining to his new position.

Mr. Trammell was reared in Polk county, and Lakeland has been the place of his residence during the most of his young manhood. He graduated in law at the Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tennessee, in May, 1899, having earned for himself the money with which to pay his expenses, and immediately after began the practice of law. His public service began at an early age. He was mayor of Lakeland during two terms, being elected to that office when only twenty-three years old. At twenty-six he was sent to the house of representatives, and two years later to the senate, of which body he was made president. Now, at the age of only thirty-two he is the Attorney General of Florida, and as such bids fair to make for himself an enviable record.

Mr. Trammell has stood from the first for publicity in all public affairs. He advocates the advertising of any projected sale of large tracts of land, and has introduced a number of resolutions requiring monthly reports and other data to be furnished to the Internal Improvement Trustees. In the early part of his term he offered a resolution to discontinue the employment of a regular attorney by the Trustees, and another to prohibit any paid agent, employee or attorney of the Trustees from getting any commission or compensation from the purchasers of public lands. On the Pardoning Board, Mr. Trammell takes the position that every application should have thorough investigation, and that, while justice should be tempered with mercy, the law-abiding must be remembered as well as the law-breaker.

Mr. Trammell's record as a legislator was one of which he might justly be proud. He was active and aggressive, and was the author of many important measures. A few of these are as follows:

Two of the laws for State aid for public schools, under which thousands of the children in the country get a longer term.

The law allowing an attorney's fee and 50 per cent per annum to force railroads and express companies to pay claims for lost or damaged freight and overcharges in a reasonable time.

A law authorizing the Railroad Commission to require transportation companies to refund overcharges made in violation of rates made by the Commission.

The law allowing persons one year from date a rate made by the Railroad Commission is held to be legal, in which to sue for overcharges, instead of one year from time claim arises. Under the old law the time would expire before legality of rate would be passed upon by the court.

The law to protect the farmer against the deceitful methods of the commission merchants in soliciting consignments of produce.

A law raising the license tax on express companies and authorizing towns and cities to impose a license tax.

A resolution appealing to Congress to amend the law in several particulars that would doubtless give better freight rates.

A law to make the tax assessment law apply to the railroads the same as to individuals, by taxing the franchise. This was to correct the discrimination in favor of the railroads. It is said that as the outcome of the fight for this measure the license tax of \$10.00 a mile was placed on railroads.

A measure to require the publication in detail of the financial transactions of the State officers, that the public may know something of its business.

A measure providing that when large tracts of public lands are to be sold they should be advertised.

A measure to prohibit candidates from buying office; to prohibit them from hiring grafters and workers, or otherwise buying influence, and to require them to publish a sworn expense account.

A measure to authorize the Railroad Commission to require the railroads to keep their track and equipment in good, safe condition and authorizing an inspection of the tracks and equipment. (A similar measure became a law.)

A measure requiring that separate cars be furnished by transportation companies for white and colored passengers.

HON. W. E. BAKER,
Who Represents the 29th Senatorial District.

The subject of this sketch, the honorable Senator from the 29th District, sent no photograph to adorn the pages of this issue of The True Democrat, giving as an excuse an "absence of good looks," consequently we can give only a word picture of his attainments, which, after all, conveys the truer image of the real man.

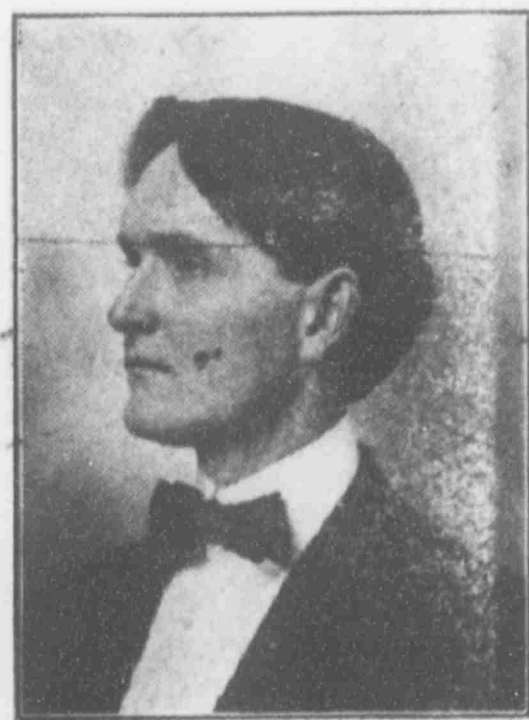
Hon. W. E. Baker was born in Sumter county, S. C., about forty-three years ago, but for the past eighteen years he has lived in Florida. His business is real estate and fruit-growing, and his 35-acre orange grove in Clay county, is one of the best paying properties in all that section, notwithstanding that on three successive occasions Mr. Baker has had to "go down upon his knees" to re-bud the stock after a severe freeze. Perseverance, however, is Mr. Baker's watchword, and is a quality of mind that brought him success in the campaign of last year when, after a most stubbornly contested fight, he won out for the Senate. His opponents were Col. C. F. Law, of Green Cove Springs, and ex-Senator F. A. Fleming, of Hibernia, brother to Florida's late lamented ex-Governor, Hon. Francis P. Fleming.

Mr. Baker has already served in the Legislature as a member of the House during two terms.

HON. A. Z. ADKINS,

Senator from 16th District.

Hon. Andrew Zenas Adkins, of Starke, Florida, Senator from the 16th District, has the distinction of being the youngest member of the present session. He was born March 16, 1877, at New River, Bradford county, and lived upon his father's farm until 1901. During these years in the country he attended school but not very regularly. Later, he took a ten month's course in the Georgia Normal and Business Institute at Abbeville, Georgia, graduating at the end of that time from the commercial department. After this he took up the study of law and graduated from the law department of Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tenn., in June of the year 1903, and was admitted that same month to the bar of Florida, at Gainesville. He now has an excellent law

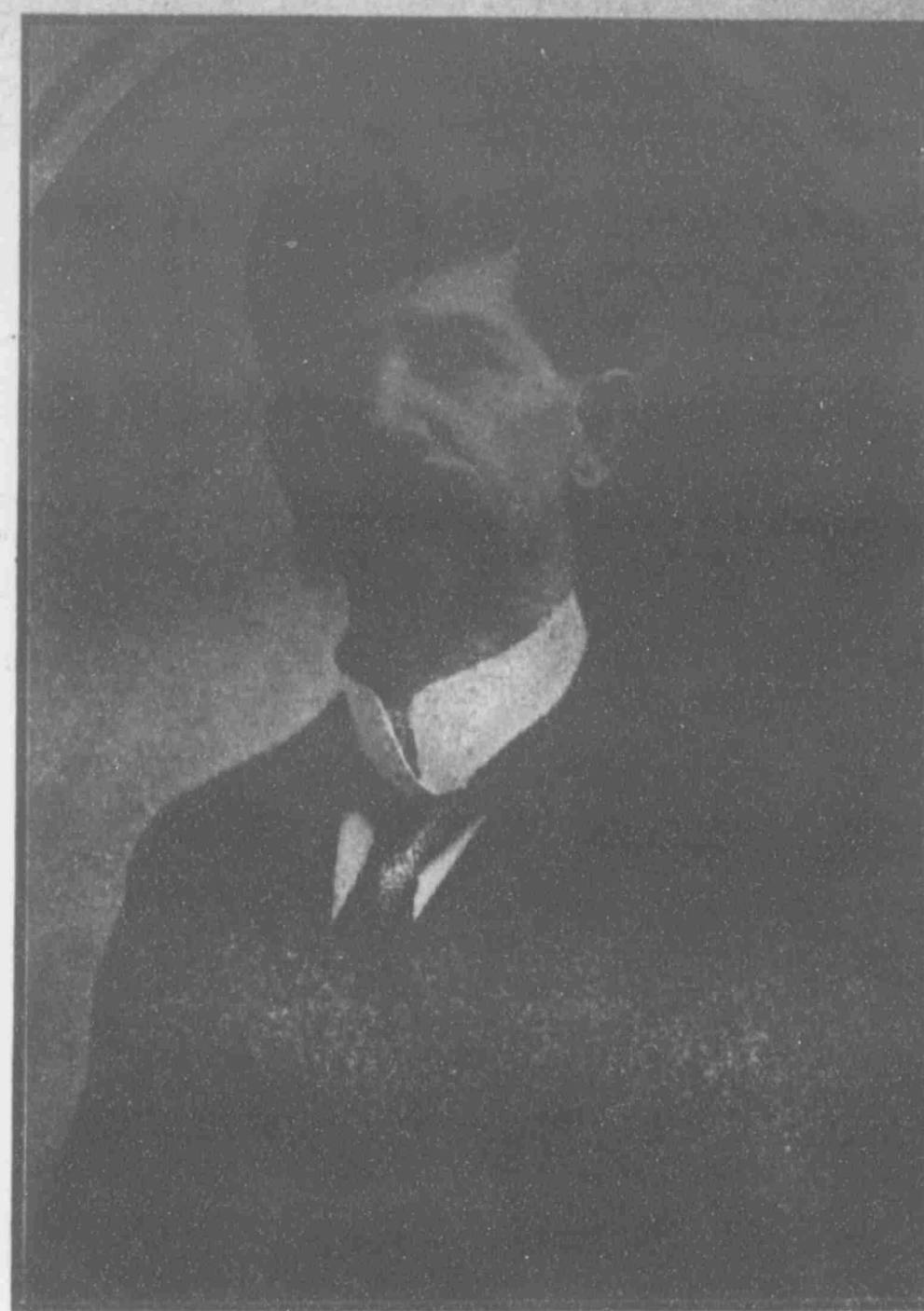


practice not only at Starke where his home is, but also throughout the State.

Mr. Adkins is prominent in local politics, having served his home town as Mayor during two terms, 1907-08, and bears the enviable reputation of having been the most progressive Mayor that Starke has ever had. Last May he was nominated for Senator from the 16th Senatorial District, and, after one of the hottest political fights ever known in Bradford county, he defeated his opponent, Mr. A. D. Andrews, a prominent merchant and farmer of that county.

Mr. Adkins has never married, having had the care of his mother and sisters since his father's death, which occurred when he was only seventeen years old.

Among his friends Mr. Adkins is known for his devotion to his family as well as for many other admirable qualities, among them being punctuality and reliability.



HENRY CLAY CRAWFORD,

Twelfth Secretary of State since the admission of Florida into the Union,

was born in Bainbridge, Georgia, on the 5th of April, 1856, and was reared on the "Old Plantation" near Crawfordville, in Wakulla county, Florida. He was married February 22d, 1881, to Anna Moring, of Crawfordville, and for several years thereafter was engaged in the mercantile business.

Mr Crawford's political career began in 1887, when he was elected to the Florida Legislature from Wakulla county. It will be remembered that the Legislature of that year was marked by the spirited contest for the United States Senatorship between former Governor Bloxham and Governor Perry. Eight years before, Gov. Bloxham had appointed the father of the Wakulla Representative to be Secretary of State, and four years thereafter Governor Perry had performed a like service, and Mr. Crawford found himself under obligations to both candidates. He espoused the cause of Governor Bloxham, however, and supported him throughout the long and bitter contest, which finally resulted in the election of Senator Samuel Pasco.

In January, 1889, Mr. Crawford accepted a clerkship in the office of the Secretary of State, which position he held continuously until the death of his father in January, 1902, when Governor Jennings appointed him, without his making application for the said position, to succeed his father, which appointment extended only until the next general election, and in the primary of 1902 he was elected without opposition. In the campaign of 1904 he was opposed for re-election by two ex-State Senators. In the first primary he failed by only a few votes of securing a majority over both opponents, and was forced to go into a second primary, in which he was elected by a majority of more than five thousand votes, and in the primary of 1908 he was again elected without opposition.

No man in this State was ever reared in a better political school, no man ever imbibed his ideas of democracy from a purer source; and those who know him best will be the first to say that no man ever more faithfully applied the fundamental principles of democracy to the political problems with which he has had to cope in his official and political life.

He comes from an old and distinguished Southern family. Among his most prominent ancestors is his great uncle, William Harris Crawford, who was in the public eye along with Webster, Calhoun and Clay. He was United States Senator from Georgia; first President pro tempore of the United States Senate; Secretary of War under President Madison; Secretary of the Treasury under President Monroe, and refused the same position under President John Quincy Adams; was Minister to France during the reign of Napoleon, and was the regular caucus nominee of the Democratic party in 1824 for the Presidency. Another kinsman, George W. Crawford, was Governor of Georgia and Secretary of War. Other ancestors held various positions of honor and trust, one being Secretary of State of Georgia for many years, while his own father was Secretary of State of Florida for twenty-one years. In inheriting the political tendencies of his ancestors, the present Secretary of State also exemplifies in his political and private life a frankness of character, honesty of purpose and simplicity of manner that won such high and honorable positions for those who wrote the family name in the political history of the past century. There is nothing resembling ostentation about Mr. Crawford, it has always been his belief and practice that official trusts should make all public servants what the name really implies, not the beneficiary, but the trustee, of the people, subservient at all times to the will and wishes of those from whose hands the trust was received. He is extremely simple in his manner, is easy of approach, and eager in his desire to always accommodate those having business in his department. He is what might be termed a "Working Official," not too good to "punch" a typewriter or transcribe a record, or do anything else connected with the work of his office.

He is ex-officio State Librarian, custodian of the Capitol building and grounds, and member of the Board of Commissioners of State Institutions, the Pardoning Board, the Board of Education and the State Canvassing Board. He is also custodian of the Great Seal of the State and State records. He also has supervision of the compilation and publication of the legislative acts, and of all matters relating to corporations chartered by the State.

Mr. Crawford is Grand Chancellor of the Order of Knights of Pythias, and takes a great interest in the Order.

His wife died in September, 1908. He has six children, William Bloxham, of Pensacola, John T. G., of Jacksonville, and Genevieve,